

Application No.: 10/632611

Case No.: 58008US002

Amendments to the Claims:~~Amendments to the Claims:~~

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-26. (Canceled).

27. (New) A method of producing a pressure sensitive adhesive, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a continuously moving, unsupported, elongate, thermoplastic, heat sealable web, the web including opposed sheets each having first and second side edges;
- (b) longitudinally sealing the web along at least one side edge, thereby forming an elongate tube with sealed side edges;
- (c) providing first and second jaw carrying members defining a sealing path therebetween, the jaw carrying members including a plurality of cooperating pairs of mating jaws traveling at substantially the same velocity as the web along the sealing path, wherein at least one of the jaw carrying members comprises a flexible non-circular conveyor;
- (d) forming a first transverse seal in the web as the web travels along the sealing path by clamping the web between a pair of mating jaws and bonding the sheets by heating the web, thereby forming a partially formed pouch having sealed side edges, a sealed bottom, and an open top;
- (e) filling the partially formed pouch with a polymerizable liquid monomer mixture;

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- (f) forming a second transverse seal in the web as the web travels along the sealing path by clamping the web between a pair of mating jaws and bonding the sheets by heating the web, thereby sealing the top of the partially formed pouch;
- (g) polymerizing the liquid monomer mixture; and
- (h) blending the polymerized liquid with the web material, thereby to form the pressure sensitive adhesive.

28. (New) The method defined in claim 27, wherein the longitudinal seal is formed by a vertical sealing station including a plurality of sealing rolls.

29. (New) The method defined in claim 28, wherein the sealing rolls are operated in draw mode, whereby the web is maintained under tension prior to and during the formation of the longitudinal seal.

30. (New) The method defined in claim 29, wherein the web entering the sealing path is relaxed and not under tension during the formation of the transverse seal.

31. (New) The method defined in claim 30, wherein the web material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, ethylene copolymers, ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA), ethylene methyl acrylate (EMA), ethylene acrylic acid (EAA), EAA ionomers, polypropylene, acrylics, polyphenylene ether, polyphenylene sulfide, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer (ABS), polyurethanes and mixtures thereof.

32. (New) A method as defined in claim 31, wherein the reactive monomer mixture comprises a monomer and an initiator.

33. (New) The method defined in claim 32, wherein the transverse seals are formed by impulse sealing.